

3 May 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of Russell S. McClure

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1. As a result of Ed Proctor's conversation with Tim McClure and your instructions to me, I met with Tim and [redacted] on Friday, 21 April 1972, with the intention of discussing the nature and quality of imagery acquired and the ways in which he should submit requirements. I intended also to discuss the problems he would face in securing the analysis of the imagery and in making the results available and generally useful. Unfortunately he brought with him his Chief Staff Assistant, Bill Dalton, who does not have tickets. We therefore had to discuss other ways in which the intelligence community might respond to his needs in case of a major disaster.

2. As you know, he is the Disaster Relief Coordinator for AID. He is not responsible in any way to General Lincoln's Office of Emergency Preparedness although he does maintain liaison with that Office. On the other hand, he does have access to the President's Contingency Fund which is a major consideration in obtaining assistance. He can call upon the DoD through its Office of International Security Affairs for several types of help, including aerial photography. He can also call upon HEW with respect to the health of refugees, the Department of Agriculture for food, etc. Since the action of the U.S. Government with respect to major foreign disasters can be very important politically, everyone has been responding with great alacrity. At the moment he has a staff of eleven people, including himself and two clericals.

3.

4. Tim McClure referred not only to his discussion with the DDI, but also to the information that was given to him by [] Chief of Geographic Division of OBGI, [] and Jack King. These men described the nature and availability of NIS material and Dave described the contents of the Handbook for Special Operations that had been prepared under the auspices

Support was offered.

5. I briefed Tim on the events that led to the establishment by the ARGO Steering Committee of the Working Group for assessing and recommending coordination of pre- and post-disaster photographic coverage of areas within the U.S. Although I pointed out that the recommendations were never activated, I loaned him the unclassified portion of the report. I also described the very small staff established within NOAA under Dr. Halldren, Associate Administrator of NOAA, for Environmental Monitoring and Prediction. This small

staff is called "Emergency Services" and is headed by Mr. Castle. It is concerned strictly with imagery for emergencies and disasters within the U. S. and serves as a focal point to which agencies can come to find out who is doing what in acquiring aerial photography. They anticipate a certain amount of coordination responsibility but it appears to be primarily an information center. General Lincoln of OEP has approved the activity as an overall element of the disaster relief activities.

6. On 25 April 1972 Tim McClure accompanied me for a briefing and three or four others were present and a number of briefing boards were used.

He was shown many other examples of the results of the various systems at various enlargements, entirely related to studies of civil conditions

7. Wally and I then described to him the general organization of

USIB, the responsibilities and structure of the COMIREX, and the beginnings of the ARGO effort and the current responsibility for interface coordination between the black and the white areas as conducted by [redacted] I have a feeling that we gave him a great deal of information a bit too rapidly and that a little re-briefing on the bureaucratic side will be necessary. I might add that we explained that he should be in close touch with State's and would have to use its secure area for any material sent him. Wally pointed out that [redacted] should be contacted for any urgent needs in this general field.

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8. I am intending to take Tim McClure to the [] some time next week since he mentioned the facility several times. It is obvious that one of his greatest difficulties will be to obtain photo interpretation and analysis of the imagery

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Tim recognizes the difficulties of sanitization and at this point feels that the information received would be available to a very small group in AID and would be of assistance to him